



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
)
Trieu et al.) Before the Examiner
) Eduardo C. Robert
Serial No. 10/083,199)
) Group Art Unit 3732
Filed February 26, 2002)
) Atty Docket No. 4002-2950/PC464.00
FLEXIBLE SYSTEMS FOR SPINAL)
STABILIZATION AND FIXATION) August 31, 2005

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed June 1, 2005, in the above application, please consider and enter the following Preliminary Amendment accompanying a Request for Continued Examination and fee for the same. No additional fees or extensions of time are believed due for consideration of the enclosed; however, please provide any extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any additional fees which may be due to deposit account 12-2424, but not including the payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this Correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and
Trademark Office at 571-273-8700 on:

August 31, 2005
(Date of Transmission)

Douglas A. Collier
Name of Registered Representative

Douglas A. Collier
Signature

August 31, 2005
Date of Signature